

12-31-03



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Attorney Docket # 99-1220-RA2-CIP

In re Application of:
Filed: September 26, 2003
Serial Number: 10/673,086
For: **Apparatus and Method for Bagging Ice**

Mail Stop – IDS
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97, and 1.98, and the Manual of Patent Examining Procedures § 609, the references listed on the attached form PTO/SB/08A are being brought to the attention of the Examiner for consideration in connection with the examination of the above-identified patent application. Copies of the cited documents are enclosed.

In order to provide complete disclosure, the present application is copending with Application No. 10/288,146, entitled "Apparatus and Method for Bagging Ice", filed on November 5, 2002; Application No. 29/190,852, entitled "Bag", filed on September 26, 2003; and PCT Application No. PCT/US 03/35249, entitled "Apparatus and Method for Bagging Ice", filed on November 5, 2003. Copies of said copending applications are enclosed herein.

If for any reason the Examiner considers this disclosure not to comply with the above-referenced requirements, it is respectfully requested that the undersigned be contacted so that any deficiencies can be remedied.

This disclosure statement should not be construed as a representation that a search has been made or that no other material information, as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(a), exists.

Some of the documents may have markings thereon. No significance is meant to be attached to any such markings.

These documents are not necessarily analogous art.

It is respectfully requested that the Examiner indicate consideration of the cited references by returning a copy of the attached form PTO/SB/08A with initials or other appropriate marks.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: December 30th, 2003



Ashish D. Patel, Esq.
Registration Number 50,177

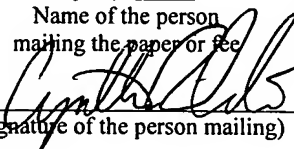
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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

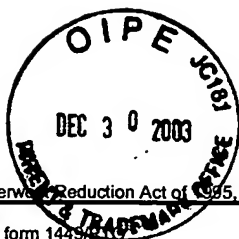
I hereby certify that this correspondence, along with any papers referred to therein as being attached or enclosed therewith, is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as Express Mail, No. EV400222547US, in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop – IDS, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on:

12-30-03
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Cynthia Pilato
Name of the person
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PTO/SB/08A (04-03)

Approved for use through 04/30/2003. OMB 0651-0031
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Substitute for form 1449, 04-03

Complete if Known**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1 of 2

Application Number	10/673,086
Filing Date	09-26-2003
First Named Inventor	
Art Unit	
Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket Number	99-1220-RA2-CIP

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
		US- 6,354,338	03-12-2002	Takemoto	ALL
		US- 6,266,945	07-31-2001	Schroeder	ALL
		US- 6,112,539	09-05-2000	Colberg	ALL
		US- 5,887,758	03-30-1999	Hawkes et al.	ALL
		US- 5,630,310	05-20-1997	Chadwell	ALL
		US- 5,473,865	12-12-1995	Tanaka et al.	ALL
		US- 5,581,982	12-10-1996	Schroeder et al.	ALL
		US- 5,458,851	10-17-1995	Schroeder et al.	ALL
		US- 5,277,016	01-11-1994	Williams	ALL
		US- 5,211,030	05-18-1993	Jameson	ALL
		US- 5,109,651	05-05-1992	Stuart	ALL
		US- 5,088,300	02-18-1992	Wessa	ALL
		US- 4,689,937	09-01-1987	Finan, Sr. et al.	ALL
		US- 4,612,779	09-23-1986	Hatton	ALL
		US- 4,404,817	09-20-1983	Cox, III	ALL
		US- 4,368,608	01-18-1983	Ray	ALL
		US- 4,348,872	09-14-1982	Hill	ALL
		US- 4,139,029	02-13-1979	Geraci	ALL
		US- 4,132,049	01-02-1979	Mullins, Jr.	ALL

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				

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SignatureDate
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This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

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Attorney Docket Number	99-1220-RA2-CIP

Sheet	2	of	2
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U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

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**Examiner
Signature**

Date	
Considered	

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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